

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated protein comprising an amino acid sequence which is the same or substantially the same as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence encoding the protein or its partial peptide according to claim 1.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence which is complementary to the polynucleotide according to claim 2 or an initial transcription product generating the polynucleotide as a result of processing, or a part thereof.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated antibody for the protein, its partial peptide or a salt thereof according to claim 1.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated protein comprising an amino acid sequence which is the same or substantially the same as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 4, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence encoding the protein or its partial peptide according to claim 5.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence which is complementary to the polynucleotide according to claim 6 or an initial transcription product generating the polynucleotide as a result of processing, or a part thereof.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated antibody for the protein, its partial peptide or a salt thereof according to claim 5.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated protein comprising an amino acid sequence which is the same or substantially the same as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 6, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence encoding the protein or its partial peptide according to claim 9.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence which is complementary to the polynucleotide according to claim 10 or an initial transcription product generating the polynucleotide as a result of processing, or a part thereof.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated antibody for the protein, its partial peptide or a salt thereof according to claim 9.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated protein comprising an amino acid sequence which is the same or substantially the same as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 8, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence encoding the protein or its partial peptide according to claim 13.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence which is complementary to the polynucleotide according to claim 14 or an initial transcription product generating the polynucleotide as a result of processing, or a part thereof.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated antibody for the protein, its partial peptide or a salt thereof according to claim 13.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated protein comprising an amino acid sequence which is the same or substantially the same as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 10, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence encoding the protein or its partial peptide according to claim 17.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence which is complementary to the polynucleotide according to claim 18 or an initial transcription product generating the polynucleotide as a result of processing, or a part thereof.

20. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated antibody for the protein, its partial peptide or a salt thereof according to claim 17.

21. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated protein comprising an amino acid sequence which is the same or substantially the same as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 12, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

22. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence encoding the protein or its partial peptide according to claim 21.

23. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence which is complementary to the polynucleotide according to claim 22 or an initial transcription product generating the polynucleotide as a result of processing, or a part thereof.

24. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated antibody for the protein, its partial peptide or a salt thereof according to claim 21.

25. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated protein comprising an amino acid sequence which is the same or substantially the same as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 14, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

26. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence encoding the protein or its partial peptide according to claim 25.

27. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence which is complementary to the polynucleotide according to claim 26 or an initial transcription product generating the polynucleotide as a result of processing, or a part thereof.

28. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated antibody for the protein, its partial peptide or a salt thereof according to claim 25.

29. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated protein comprising an amino acid sequence which is the same or substantially the same as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 16, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

30. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence encoding the protein or its partial peptide according to claim 29.

31. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence which is complementary to the polynucleotide according to claim 30 or an initial transcription product generating the polynucleotide as a result of processing, or a part thereof.

32. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated antibody for the protein, its partial peptide or a salt thereof according to claim 29.

33. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated protein comprising an amino acid sequence which is the same or substantially the same as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 18, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

34. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence encoding the protein or its partial peptide according to claim 33.

35. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence which is complementary to the polynucleotide according to claim 34 or an initial transcription product generating the polynucleotide as a result of processing, or a part thereof.

36. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated antibody for the protein, its partial peptide or a salt thereof according to claim 33.

37. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated protein comprising an amino acid sequence which is the same or substantially the same as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 20, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

38. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence encoding the protein or its partial peptide according to claim 37.

39. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence which is complementary to the polynucleotide according to claim 38 or an initial transcription product generating the polynucleotide as a result of processing, or a part thereof.

40. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated antibody for the protein, its partial peptide or a salt thereof according to claim 37.

41. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated protein comprising an amino acid sequence which is the same or substantially the same as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 22, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

42. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence encoding the protein or its partial peptide according to claim 41.

43. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a base sequence which is complementary to the polynucleotide according to claim 42 or an initial transcription product generating the polynucleotide as a result of processing, or a part thereof.

44. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated antibody for the protein, its partial peptide or a salt thereof according to claim 41.

45. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A pharmaceutical composition ~~medicine~~ comprising the protein, its partial peptide or a salt thereof according to ~~any one of claims~~ Claim 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, 29, 33, 37 and 41 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient or diluent.

46. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A pharmaceutical composition ~~medicine~~ comprising the polynucleotide according to ~~any one of claims~~ Claim 2, 6, 10, 14, 18, 22, 26, 30, 34, 38 and 42 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient or diluent.

47. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A pharmaceutical composition ~~medicine~~ comprising the polynucleotide according to ~~any one of claims~~ Claim 3, 7, 11, 15, 19, 23, 27, 31, 35, 39 and 43 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient or diluent.

48. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A pharmaceutical composition ~~medicine~~ comprising the antibody according to ~~any one of claims~~ Claim 4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 24, 28, 32, 36, 40 and 44 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient or diluent.

49. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The pharmaceutical composition ~~medicine~~ according to ~~any one of claims~~ Claim 45 to 48, which is a prophylactic and/or therapeutic agent for diseases involving abnormality of adipocyte differentiation and/or metabolism function.

50. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A diagnostic agent comprising the polynucleotide according to ~~any one of claims~~ Claim 2, 6, 10, 14, 18, 22, 26, 30, 34, 38 and 42 or a part thereof.

51. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A diagnostic agent comprising the polynucleotide according to ~~any one of claims~~ Claim 3, 7, 11, 15, 19, 23, 27, 31, 35, 39 and 43.

52. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A diagnostic agent comprising the antibody according to ~~any one of claims~~ Claim 4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 24, 28, 32, 36, 40 and 44.

53. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A diagnostic agent according to ~~any one of claims~~ Claim 50 to 52 for diagnosing diseases involving abnormality of adipocyte differentiation and/or metabolism function.

54. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of screening a compound or a salt thereof having specific affinity for the protein or a salt thereof according to ~~any one of claims~~ Claim 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, 29, 33, 37 and 41, or a compound or a salt thereof changing binding property between the protein or a salt thereof and the compound or a salt thereof, which comprises using said protein, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

55. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A kit for screening a compound or a salt thereof having specific affinity for the protein or a salt thereof according to ~~any one of claims~~ Claim 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, 29, 33, 37 and 41, or a compound or a salt thereof changing binding property between the protein or a salt thereof and the compound or a salt thereof, which comprises said protein, its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

56. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A ~~medicine~~ pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound or a salt thereof obtained by using the method according to claim 54 ~~or the kit according to claim 55~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable, carrier, excipient or diluent.

57. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~medicine~~ pharmaceutical composition according to claim 56, which is a prophylactic and/or therapeutic agent for diseases involving abnormality of adipocyte differentiation and/or metabolism function.

58. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of screening a compound or a salt thereof changing the expression amount of a gene encoding the protein according to ~~any one of claims~~ Claim 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, 29, 33, 37 and 41, which comprises screening for said protein using ~~the~~ an

isolated polynucleotide which encodes for said protein ~~according to any one of claims 2, 6, 10, 14, 18, 22, 26, 30, 34, 38 and 42~~ or a part thereof.

59. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A kit for screening a compound or a salt thereof changing the expression amount of gene encoding the protein as described in Claim ~~any one 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, 29, 33, 37 and 41~~, which comprises ~~the~~ a polynucleotide which encodes for said protein ~~according to any one of claims 2, 6, 10, 14, 18, 22, 26, 30, 34, 38 and 42~~ or a part thereof.

60. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A pharmaceutical composition ~~medicine~~ comprising a compound or a salt thereof obtained by using the method according to claim 58 ~~or the kit according to claim 59~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient or diluent.

61. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The pharmaceutical composition ~~medicine~~ according to claim 60, which is a prophylactic and/or therapeutic agent for diseases involving abnormality of adipocyte differentiation and/or metabolism function.

62. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of screening a compound or a salt thereof changing the amount of the protein or a salt thereof according to ~~any one of claims~~ Claim ~~1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, 29, 33, 37 and 41~~ on the cell membrane or in the extracellular fluid, which comprises screening for said protein using the an isolated antibody which binds to said protein ~~according to any one of claims 4, in a screening assay 8, 12, 16, 20, 24, 28, 32, 36, 40 and 44.~~

63. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A kit for screening a compound or a salt thereof changing the amount of the protein or a salt thereof according to ~~any one of claims~~ Claim ~~1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21,~~

~~25, 29, 33, 37 and 41~~ on the cell membrane or in the extracellular fluid, which comprises ~~the an~~
isolated antibody which binds to said protein according to any one of claims and directions for
use 4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 24, 28, 32, 36, 40 and 44.

64. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A pharmaceutical composition ~~medicine~~ comprising a
compound or a salt thereof obtained by using the method according to claim 62 ~~or the kit~~
~~according to claim 63~~ and pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient or diluent.

65. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The pharmaceutical composition ~~medicine~~ according to claim
64, which is a prophylactic and/or therapeutic agent for diseases involving abnormality of
adipocyte differentiation and/or metabolism function.